

## Preface

correspondence since their deaths has been opened to the public in memoirs or other like works.

It should perhaps be added that this volume does not pretend to be in any sense a history of the reign. No one can be more fully aware than the author how much better it would be if all would read for themselves the great works mentioned above. Nevertheless, as at the end of a day's work many are apt to think the perusal of large volumes a task beyond them, he ventures to hope that this small volume may be found to supply a want.

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